

CELEBRATION OF THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the San Francisco Public Library on June 7, 2004. Since its opening in 1879, the San Francisco Public Library has been a symbol of intellectual freedom.

Many years ago, I was proud to serve on the San Francisco Public Library Commission. The library has provided five generations of San Franciscans with wonderful literature, educational materials and a sanctuary for learning.

San Francisco is fortunate to be the home of the state-of-the-art Main Library and 26, soon to be 27, neighborhood libraries. The library is committed to presenting a varied collection of works, respecting the diverse needs and populations of San Franciscans and consistently pursuing intellectual equality. It now offers focus collections pertaining to the African American, Gay and Lesbian, International, Chinese, Filipino, and teen populations and the environment.

This is not only a day to celebrate this magnificent San Francisco institution, but also a time to recognize the many dedicated and skilled librarians and volunteers who make it possible for the library to offer such a wide range of services. Together, they ensure that the library will continue to be a cultural and educational center of opportunity.

Thomas Jefferson wisely counseled that democracy is dependent upon an informed and educated citizenry. The public library is an instrument of opportunity, allowing all Americans access to the knowledge and information essential to our nation's greatness. The San Francisco Public Library has been an outstanding example of a free public library committed to bettering our civic life.

I proudly join my constituents in celebrating the 125th anniversary of this historic San Francisco establishment.

HONORING KATHARINE C. LYALL

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Katharine C. Lyall, who served for more than 12 years as president of the University of Wisconsin System. Dr. Lyall's work has made an indelible mark on the great UW System, and her leadership will be missed by all when she retires this year.

Dr. Lyall has dedicated her life's work to the promotion of people and knowledge. A professor of Economics, she held teaching posts at Syracuse University, Cornell University, and Johns Hopkins University before arriving at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dr. Lyall's commitment to education and to her field of study persisted long after her transition to university administration.

Beyond her expertise in the study of economics and her strong administrative leader-

ship, Dr. Lyall brought to the University of Wisconsin System a background in public service and policy. During the Carter administration, Dr. Lyall served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development. She was later Director of Johns Hopkins' prestigious public policy program.

Dr. Lyall's focus on public service and policy has served the University of Wisconsin System well. Her accomplished tenure saw the implementation of new diversity policies, increased enrollment, and continued distinction of an already outstanding public university system.

In her dedication to access and excellence, in her tireless work for the University of Wisconsin, and in her wholehearted devotion to the democratic ideal in public education, Dr. Lyall exemplifies the Wisconsin Idea. She will be sorely missed.

LINDA WHITE-EPPS POST OFFICE

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to pay tribute to Linda White-Epps by renaming the Whitneyville Branch Post Office building in Hamden, Connecticut as the "Linda White-Epps Post Office."

Linda was an extraordinary woman who dedicated her life to making her community better. She served in town government and on local non-profit boards. Most of all, though, she was devoted to the cause of raising awareness about breast cancer among African American women. I am proud to have known her and to have called her my friend.

Linda was an executive board member of the local NAACP and sat on the Board of Directors of the local Boys and Girls Club. In 2001, she was elected to the Hamden Legislative Council. But it was her work in fighting breast cancer that led her to be named a Point of Light by the Points of Light Foundation in 2001.

She created Sisters' Journey, a non-profit organization that provides education and support to breast cancer survivors, their friends and their families. In 1999, Sisters Journey published a calendar featuring pictures of women who have beaten the disease. Each turn of a page provides a look at another month, more stories from "sisters" and words of encouragement to women. Each page says examine your breasts and have regular mammograms. The unveiling of the calendar still occurs every October at a fundraiser known as the "Pink Tea," a tradition Linda started.

Linda was one of the women profiled in the calendar. She beat breast cancer in 1990, and spent the last decade of her life helping other women do the same. Sadly, she finally succumbed to the disease last year. Linda faced breast cancer in such a quiet way that many of her neighbors and friends were not aware of the gravity of her illness.

She approached advocacy with humility, but received several awards from the American Cancer Society. She also won the Greater New Haven NAACP Freedom Fund Award, and the "Daily Point of Light" award. Linda was also responsible for organizing the first

"Relay for Life," held in the Hamden area. The event raised about \$50,000 for the American Cancer Society and also reached a larger segment of African American women participants.

Mr. Speaker, Linda was the granddaughter of a postal carrier. Like her grandfather, she lived a remarkable life that made a difference in her community. Honoring her by renaming the Hamden Post Office after her would be a fitting tribute.

TRIBUTE TO THE 2004 PROJECT GRAD NEWARK GRADUATING SCHOLARS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2004 Project GRAD Newark Graduating Scholars. Tonight, more than 300 individuals will gather to honor more than 75 Project GRAD Scholars, graduating from Malcolm X Shabazz and Central High Schools, located in my district's South and Central Wards. These outstanding students will be recognized for having met, maintained, and exceeded strict academic performance standards, and will be awarded a \$6,000 college scholarship.

Project GRAD Newark is a nonprofit, educational support organization that focuses on building the capacity of participating Newark public schools to improve student achievement. Their mission is to ensure a quality education for children in the most challenging, economically disadvantaged public schools in my hometown of Newark, New Jersey, and to support them as the graduate high school, and prepare for, attend, and graduate from college.

Project GRAD Newark was created in 1998 through the support of Ford Foundation and Lucent Technologies Foundation. The GRAD model originated in Houston, Texas in 1989, as a scholarship incentive program to encourage urban school students to graduate high school. Today, it works with a feeder pattern of schools—a high school and the middle and elementary schools that feed students to that high school. This method ensures curricular and programmatic consistency from kindergarten to 12th grade. PGN began implementation of the GRAD model in the Malcolm X Shabazz High School feeder pattern in 1998 and announced implementation in the Central High School feeder in 2000.

PGN serves two feeder patterns comprised of 8,600 students throughout 16 Newark Public Schools. Nationally, Project GRAD serves over 135,000 students in 217 schools across the country.

The results are unmistakable: according to preliminary evaluations, PGN students significantly outperformed their non-PGN peers in math and reading during their first and second years of the model's implementation. On-time graduation rates have increased from 56 percent in 2001 to 76 percent in 2003. 95 percent of GRAD Scholars who graduated in 2003 from Shabazz High School are enrolled in college, and our first class of GRAD Scholars will graduate this year from the Central High School feeder pattern.

As a former teacher, I stand before you today with pride. Project GRAD Newark is

reaching students and challenging them to fulfill their academic potential. They are cultivating future leaders, who may someday stand where I do today.

Mr. Speaker, I commend to you these dedicated students, and I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating them on their past achievements, encouraging them in their future endeavors, and supporting the successful Project GRAD Newark program as they continue to serve the students in my district.

RECOGNIZING ALEC MESSERALL
FOR HIS SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I'm proud that as we celebrate the life of President Ronald Reagan, a fellow Central Ohioan will participate in our tribute. Air Force Academy Cadet Alec Messerall of Alexandria, Ohio, has been chosen as one of five service members to escort the casket of President Reagan from the White House down Constitution Avenue to the Capitol.

Alec is a 22-year-old senior at the academy who graduated from Northridge High School in Johnstown, Ohio. His leadership skills, academic and athletic record, and his extracurricular activities led my predecessor, John Kasich, to nominate him for an academy appointment.

I know Alec and his family are extremely proud he was chosen to be part of the historic events that are unfolding in our Nation's capitol as we honor our former President. All of us also look forward to Alec's service to our country in the United States Air Force. I am certain he will be an outstanding military officer.

HONORING THE EASTER SEALS
GOODWILL INDUSTRIES REHABILITATION CENTER ON ITS 35TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker 35 years ago, a historic merger occurred which resulted in the creation of the Easter Seals Goodwill Industries Rehabilitation Center. Today, community leaders, supporters, advocates, and participants have gathered to mark this very special occasion. It is with my heart-felt thanks and sincere appreciation that I rise today to join them in celebrating this important milestone.

What began as three separate agencies has become one of the most successful and effective non-profit agencies in the Greater New Haven area. This community-based organization is committed to its mission to enhance employment opportunities and the quality of life for people with disabilities and other special needs. Throughout the years, as communities advanced, those needs have changed. As an organization rooted in the community,

the Center has been able to identify those changes and adapt its programs and services to meet them. This could not have been accomplished without the strength of support the Center has received from its staff and the communities of Greater New Haven.

I would be remiss if I did not recognize the vision and leadership of the man who has been leading this agency for the last twenty years—Malcolm Gill. For the last two decades, Mal has worked diligently to ensure that the Center is providing the programs and services that meet the needs of their participants. There is no one who could be more dedicated to fulfilling the mission of the organization. I consider myself fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with him so closely over the years and to call him my friend.

For people with disabilities and other special needs, functioning in the daily activities that we take for granted is not only challenging, but it can be a source of frustration and heartache. While these men and women have a deep desire to contribute to the community, physical or mental limitations make that difficult to accomplish. That is why the Center has become such a fundamental part of our community. They provide a gift which is truly invaluable—the opportunity for success and a sense of belonging. The Center has touched the lives of thousands over the years and mere words cannot describe the difference they have made to those individuals.

For the innumerable contributions it has made to our community, it is with great pride that I stand today to extend my sincere congratulations to the Easter Seals Goodwill Industries Rehabilitation Center on its 35th Anniversary. Through their unparalleled dedication and commitment, they have helped to change the face of our community and have made it a better place for our children and families.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP RUSSELL
SCOTT ON THE CELEBRATION OF
HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to honor Bishop Russell Scott as he celebrates his 100th birthday at a party in his honor at the Galloping Hill Caterers on Saturday, July 3, 2004. To live a century is indeed a significant event; to accomplish so much during that time is truly outstanding.

As a member of Glad Tidings Pentecostal Tabernacle Church, Bishop Scott established himself as an integral part of the church. He served as Superintendent of the Sunday School, a Deacon, Church Clerk and Treasurer. He went on to become Pastor and later, a Bishop. Since he was a mason by training, Bishop Scott supervised the building of the new church edifice which was completed and dedicated on March 20, 1960. Bishop Scott has since retired but still serves as overseer prelate.

In addition to the contributions made to his church, Bishop Scott was active in the community and has received many certificates for his involvement. They include certificates from the Essex County Probation Department, the Cornell Center Chapel Service, the U.S. De-

partment of Commerce, Senior Citizen Nutrition Site in Orange, NJ and a certificate as former Tour Host for Trinity Travel and Tours Abroad to Israel. Bishop Scott also served as President of the United Clergy of Vauxhall and Vicinity. He received his theological and divinity degrees from Miller University.

Bishop Scott is indeed blessed to join a very exclusive club of centenarians. I am delighted to wish him well as he celebrates this occasion. I know that my colleagues join me in sending best wishes for continued health and happiness to Bishop Russell Scott on his 100th birthday.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL
OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC
ADMINISTRATION ACT

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce H.R. 4546, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Act. Better known as NOAA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration was created by Executive Order in 1970. As Chairman of the Environment, Technology and Standards Subcommittee of the House Science Committee, I oversee much of NOAA. It is the Nation's lead civilian agency for oceans and atmosphere, yet Congress has never passed an overarching organic act describing the mission and functions of the agency. Instead, over the past 34 years Congress has defined the mission of the agency in a piecemeal manner with legislation focused on specific issues. The bill I am introducing today is a first step toward Congressional passage of comprehensive legislation for NOAA.

On April 20, the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy released its long awaited Preliminary Report with recommendations for a coordinated national ocean policy. One of its key recommendations is that Congress should pass an organic act for NOAA. At a recent Science Committee hearing, the chairman of the Commission emphasized the importance of this recommendation and I strongly agree with him. The time is right for Congress to consider, and pass, this organic act for NOAA, an agency that provides vital services to the Nation that range from weather forecasts and warnings to cutting-edge marine research.

My bill contains three major sections. Title I is an organic act for NOAA. It establishes the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) within the Department of Commerce and defines the mission of NOAA. This mission is "to understand and predict changes in the Earth's oceans and atmosphere and the effects of such changes on the land environment, to conserve and manage coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes ecosystems, and to educate the public about these topics." My bill maintains the current leadership structure at NOAA, but adds a Deputy Assistant Secretary for Science and Technology to serve as the point person for the agency to coordinate the research and science activities of NOAA across the agency.

Title I of my bill also describes the functions of NOAA, which are divided into three broad groups to improve cooperation among NOAA's